Press Release



Date: April 8, 2011

Contact Info: Public Affairs Division (909) 387-3700

SECOND NATIONWIDE PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY

The Drug Enforcement Administration and government, community, public health and law enforcement partners will again be offering the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous prescription drugs. On Saturday, April 30th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., DEA and its partners will hold their second National Prescription Drug Take Back Day at sites throughout Southern California. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Many Americans are not aware that medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. According to the 2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health indicates that rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high—more Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than the number of those using cocaine, halogens, and heroin combined.

"Americans turned in over 242,000 pounds – 121 tons – of prescription drugs at nearly 4,100 sites operated by more than 3,000 of the DEA's state and local law enforcement partners", said Sheriff Rod Hoops. "The success of the First Nationwide Prescription Drug Take Back Day offered in September of last year is clearly an indication of how important this program is to the safety of the citizens of San Bernardino County", he added.

"The Prescription Drug Take-Back program provides area residents with a safe way to dispose of their unwanted medication," said Timothy J. Landrum, DEA Special Agent in Charge. "Unused or expired medications are a public safety issue, and can lead to accidental poisoning, overdoes and abuse,. That is why we are committed to helping keep homes in our communities safe, by ridding our medicine cabinets of expired, unused and unwanted drugs."

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department will have nine stations participating with the collection of these unused prescription medications. They will be open on Saturday, April 30th, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and no appointment is necessary. The participating sites are listed below:

Central Station 909.387.3545 655 East 3rd Street, San Bernardino

Highland Police Department 909.425.9793 26985 East Baseline, Highland

Rancho Cucamonga Police Department 909.477.2800 10510 Civic Center Drive, Rancho Cucamonga

Chino Hills Police Department 909.364.2000 14077 Peyton Drive, Chino Hills

Twin Peaks Sheriff's Station 909.366.0060 26010 Highway 189, Twin Peaks

Big Bear Sheriff's Station 909.866.0100 477 Summit Blvd., Big Bear Lake

Victorville Police Department 760.241.2911 14200 Amargosa Road, Victorville

Morongo Basin Station 760.366.4175 6527 White Feather Road, Joshua Tree

Barstow Sheriff's Station 760.256.4870 225 East Mt. View, Barstow

We encourage every citizen to look in their homes for any old, unused prescription medication and bring them to one of the listed collection sites for disposal. If you have any questions, contact the collection site nearest you or Sheriff's Public Affairs Division at 909. 387.3700.

In addition to the collection sites listed above, additional locations throughout Southern California can be found by visiting www.dea.gov and clicking on the "Got Drugs?" icon.

For additional information pertaining to DEA and prescription drug abuse, visit <u>www.dea.gov</u>, <u>www.justthinktwice.gov</u>, or <u>www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com</u>.

Public Affairs Division 909.387.3700

ROD HOOPS, Sheriff-Coroner San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Solid Waste Management Division 222 West Hospitality Lane, Second Floor San Bernardino CA 92415-0017 (909) 386-8701 Fax (909) 386-8964



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Rex Richardson, Media Specialist

909-386-8975 cell: 909-709-7224 rex.richardson@dpw.sbcounty.gov

One Day Only Backyard Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Event

The San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division and the City of Redlands will be hosting a one day only backyard Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Truckload Sale, Saturday April 23 at Sylvan Park in Redlands. The sale runs from 9AM – 3PM in the parking lot. Sylvan Park is located at 730 Chapel Street, Redlands.

Composting is a better use of leaves, plant prunings, vegetable scraps and grass clippings rather than putting them in the trash or green waste barrels.

Rain barrels are used to collect and store rainwater from rooftops for lawn and garden use. Rain barrels help conserve water, reduce water bills, and reduce pollution by reducing storm water runoff.

The "Earth Machine" compost bin will be available for \$49.00. The composters are made of rugged, heavy-gauge plastic, about are 3' tall and 3' in diameter.

The System Rain Barrel is available for \$60.00. Has a 55 gallon capacity, stainless steel mosquito mesh to keep bugs and debris out.

Kitchen Scrap Pails (\$7.00) and Compost Turners (\$15.00) will be also be available. All prices include tax.

Sales limited to San Bernardino County residents only. Rain or Shine • Check or Credit Card •While Supplies Last •First Come, First Served

For more information, please call (909) 386-8701 or visit www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/solidwaste ###